

# THE SCOTT COUNTY NEWSBOY.

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## Shooting at Sikeston.

The perforations in the partition wall at Nester & Co.'s saloon, Sikeston, indicates that Christmas was more thoroughly celebrated at Sikeston than elsewhere in the county.

On Christmas eve James T. Marshall and Ben. Ballard, Marshall's brother-in-law, met in the saloon and before many words had passed, Marshall whipped out a revolver and began to squirt lead at Ballard in a lively manner. Five shots were fired—two of which took effect, one in the wrist and one in the side, but neither proved to be of any consequence.

The cause of the trouble was a grudge of long standing. It is said that Ballard first attempted to strike Marshall with a chair. When disarmed by John Greer, Marshall had a 38 calibre revolver in his right hand and a 44 in his left.

Marshall had his preliminary hearing Monday and was acquitted.

## A New Railroad.

Jefferson City Tribune.

A certificate of incorporation was issued by Secretary of State Lesueur Monday to the Kennett and Osceola Railroad company; capital stock, \$200,000. The company will have its principal office in the city of Cape Girardeau and is organized for the purpose of constructing and operating a line of standard gauge railway from Kennett, Dunklin county, to a point on the State line between Missouri and Arkansas to be determined hereafter. The length of the road will be twenty miles and it will connect at Kennett with the St. Louis, Kennett and Southern road. The board of directors is composed of Louis B. Houck of Pemiscot county, Leo Doyle, E. F. Blomeyer, R. G. Ranney and R. B. Andrews of Cape Girardeau.

## Does this Refer to You?

On January 1 quite a number of subscriptions expired. Most of them have renewed, yet there are some who have not. We do not wish to lose a single subscriber, and to those whose time expired on the first we will send this issue in the hope that they will renew during the coming week. If we have no agent at your post office, just enclose a paper dollar in a letter at our risk. If you are not satisfied with the paper at the expiration of six months your money will be refunded. We sell this paper only for cash, and we guarantee every subscriber his money's worth. We give our readers the news and do not fill up space with stale advertisements and other trash.

## Footprints in Our Yard.

Footprints were plainly visible in the editor's yard, one morning last week, and we called in Thos. Stone and Luke Russell to examine them. All agree that they were the same as the foot-prints discovered on the morning after the saloon and Heisserer's store were burglarized. There were two parties—one wearing about a No. 10 pointed toed shoe and the other a No. 6 or 7. The tracks were followed down town. Just what burglars would expect to find around the residence of a newspaper man is more than we can explain. Possibly they were looking for a puff.

## Robbery at Commerce.

Sunday evening, before the night watchman arrived, someone entered the office of the Grand Chain Mills, at Commerce, unlocked the cash drawer and sneaked it off.

As soon as the watchman arrived he discovered what had happened and a search was instituted. The drawer was found floating in the river, near the incline, and two men were reported to have been seen rowing up the river. It was dark and rainy and they were not followed.

The drawer contained a counterfeit silver dollar and a quarter with a hole in it.

## Insurance Money Partly Paid.

At his death M. A. Heisserer was carrying life policies in two insurance companies for \$5,000 each. Last week the Security Trust Company settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. The remaining policy, in a New York concern, has not been settled. The policy in the Security Trust Company was payable to his wife direct, while the remaining policy is made payable to his estate.

## For Free Distribution.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28, 1896. —To the Public: I have 81 thousand of field, flower and garden seeds, and 19 hundred Agricultural reports for gratuitous distribution. Parties desiring a package of the seeds, or a copy of the reports, or both, can get them by sending me their names and address at once.

Yours very truly,  
N. A. MOZLEY.

## Business Changes at Sikeston.

For a short time the people who visit Sikeston will get mixed, as almost a complete change has been made in business circles.

Probably the heaviest deal made was the purchase of the entire stock of A. J. Matthews & Co., by Caleb Matthews, of Oran. The stock involved about \$12,000. Matthews & Co., have a store at Whitewater, in Cape county, and the goods were bought for that trade, but the stock is so very large that their building there will only hold a part of it. When Caleb was asked what he intended to do with the goods he replied: "I don't know; I guess I'll have to start another store."

Another important change is the removal of Geo. P. McCoy to the building formerly occupied by A. J. Matthews & Co. Harris & Klein are occupying the building vacated by Mr. McCoy and are handling a neat and clean line of general merchandise. Shanks & Busby occupy the building vacated by Mr. Klein.

Emory, Sikes & Co., occupy the building formerly occupied by Sikes, Tanner & Co., and everything is tastefully arranged. The building has been lengthened and there are few stores in Southeast Missouri that will surpass that of Emory, Sikes & Co. H. F. Emory and W. H. Barnes of the late firm of A. J. Matthews & Co., are members of this firm, as is also Frank Sikes.

To make a long story short, Sikeston has some of the best arranged business concerns in this end of the state.

## Got Their Dates Mixed.

Usually, on New Year's Eve night the "Mackeral gang" of Benton play their pranks by removing signs, buggies, etc., but this year they did not seem to get properly straightened out for business until Saturday night.

Sunday morning ex-Congressman Arnold was seen peeping around in the different sheds in search of a buggy. Judge Leedy was out on a similar expedition. They finally located their property in the hallway of the court house. "Well," said Mr. Arnold, "that is a 'better' shed than I have at home. I'll just leave it."

Tom Adams and Editor Smith discovered their buggies in Walker's pond almost inundated; W. H. Heisserer's wagon had been dragged across the front of Finley's horse-tailorshop, a wagon and a part of a binder was on the porch of the saloon; two beer kegs ornamented the gate posts at the Cannon house; R. A. Kingsbury's wood pile had been removed to the sidewalk; soda-water cases blockaded the entrance to the court yard, the Record sign adorned the front of the Newsboy office, and someone set fire to a chunk of limberger at Joe Compas' restaurant which Joe said "smelled like a sewer."

But there came a day of reckoning. Monday morning Joe Compas was out looking for the mayor. He found the chief magistrate, told his tale of woe, and asked that warrants be issued for disturbers. The mayor had on his good clothes ready to depart from the city and told Joe to call at 4 o'clock. The boys heard of Joe's action and, in a body, mounted the stool of repentance and asked that no action be taken. By the time the mayor returned the boys had it all fixed, and Joseph withdrew his complaints.

It is quite a treat for New Year to come around. It is about the only time the boys seem to sum up courage enough to take a little exercise, and the people of the town take their pranks all good-humoredly, realizing that the boys are very much in need the exercise to stimulate digestion.

## Catholic Church for Benton.

The Catholics of Benton and vicinity have been called to meet at the court house, Saturday, January 9th, for the purpose of taking the preliminary steps toward building a church at Benton.

Some of our wealthiest Catholics are very enthusiastic over the matter and it is believed that \$5,000 can be raised without any trouble. Benton needs something to revive it, and a Catholic church would certainly aid very materially in this direction.

## A Sad Christmas.

Perhaps the most unfortunate family in the neighborhood was that of James Cannon, of Sandywoods. The entire family was sick, and on Christmas morning Mrs. Cannon died. On the following Monday the 4-year-old son died. The husband and father became delirious with grief and soon found himself struggling with a severe case of pneumonia. His condition is improving.

## A General Complaint.

"Taxes are mighty high. I'll tell you it's too much to have to pay these hard times." Such were almost the unanimous expressions of the farmers who have been to Benton lately to settle up with the collector.

But it cannot be helped. It is true that one hundred bushels of corn does not go very far toward paying a farmer's taxes. Taxes are fixed charges. They may increase, but will never decrease under a gold standard. All property declines in value, but the salaries of our county, district, state and national officers remain the same—and these salaries must be paid by the people. A farm that would have sold a few years ago for \$3,000 would probably bring less than \$2,000 today, yet its assessed valuation remains the same if it has not increased.

This is a matter for our farmers to study over. Would they be better off if they could pay taxes with a dollar obtained by giving up two and one-half bushels of corn, or do they return home with a clearer conscience after having paid out a dollar for which they were compelled to give up five bushels?

## Our Weather Predictions.

It is really strange that a poor man has no show in this country.

During the fall of 1895 Weather Prophet Hicks predicted all sorts of cold weather for that winter. In fact, it was almost impossible to read his predictions without an overcoat on. We were to have a terrible winter.

The Newsboy man claims to be somewhat of a weather prophet himself, and when he read of Parson Hicks' freeze 'em out predictions he made his first attempt at fame. The Newsboy predicted that, notwithstanding Parson Hicks' predictions to the contrary, we would have a mild winter.

Time rolled on. Everybody shuddered when recalling the Hicks predictions, but would become reconciled at the possibility of the Newsboy being correct. Of course we were taken in by desperate chances. It was our first attempt, and we were just as liable to miss it as Hicks. But we maintained a bold front and whenever anyone would mention "weather," we always answered knowingly.

Spring came and the winter had been exceptionally mild. Few people found it necessary to don their overcoats. We felt that we had accomplished as much as Hicks had ever accomplished, and that a national reputation awaited us. We didn't make any noise about it, but expected other newspapers to tell the people of the new prophet who had sprung up in Scott county. But they didn't, and we are now firmly convinced that to get there as a weather prophet every man must tuck his own horn. Hicks does this through his publications and is making a success of it.

## Republicans Meet at Morley.

The Republican county Central Committee met at Morley last Monday for the purpose of deciding what action the different committeemen should take regarding the signing of postoffice petitions. It was decided to let every fellow act for himself.

It was also decided that the party should be thoroughly reorganized in the county and that a newspaper be established at Sikeston.

It is to be hoped that the Republicans will do something to wake up the sleepy Democrats of this county. During the recent campaign there was not a county candidate, with the single exception of Representative Williams, who tried to make a vote for the ticket. The "hold-over" crowd may be classed in the same boat. They seem to think that after the primary election there is nothing left for them to do. We hope to see the Republicans get in shape so as to make them hustle for their "pie" hereafter.

## Sikeston Was Cut Off.

Owing to a washout on the main line, all the trains came down the Belmont branch and went to Poplar Bluff via Charleston. Tuesday morning the bridge at Dexter was swept away, and that line was killed. For two days all mails were out off from Sikeston and other towns along the Cat road, as well as along the main line from St. Louis to Poplar Bluff.

At the Bluff Black River is out of its banks and the east side is inundated.

## Got an Old Sewing Machine?

I will repair all old Sewing Machines brought to me free of charge for ten days, commencing January 30, owners to pay for all new parts, if any are needed. Bring any old machine you have and I will fix it. All work guaranteed for one year.

W. G. RANDOL, Kelso, Mo.

## FROM NEW HAMBURG.

Louis Richert is acting as deputy road overseer on the gravel pit.

Mrs. Franz Kuhn died Sunday, December 27th, 1896, after a lingering illness. The remains were interred the following Tuesday in St. Lawrence's cemetery.

A. W. Dirnberger is reported sick with an attack of Bright's disease. Mrs. John Blettel was taken suddenly sick one day last week. Her condition was very critical for several days, but she is reported as improving.

The citizens, and especially the business men, of our quiet little city—the city of several hills, standing as a landmark of old Scott's Island, when in days gone by, the Gulf of Mexico spread its magnificent waters around them, and here and there a volcano, in its fullest eruption, lit up the darkness of the silent nights. The hills of Mound Builders' habitation, whose history is merely a conjecture, and resting in obscure darkness, is at the eve of the new year in as progressive a state as many of the sister cities in the grand State of Missouri.

While there have not been erected very costly habitations for the mortal beings, there was no drawback from any side to keep up with the pace of civilization. Several new, comfortable houses have been erected, and the greatest thing ever undertaken and consummated in this town was the grading and graveling of the streets, and sidewalks constructed. There was greater spirit of reform for the better practiced and actually accomplished.

Our business people have done a very good, paying business; citizens were law-abiding, so much so that our city mayor and marshal will be disposed of in the future, and for the year 1897 our city will be governed without them.

Alex. Dumbear, undertaker, painter and trimmer, has faithfully attended to all matters in his profession. Besides being an expert in these trades he persistently pursues volume after volume of books, and to-day his gain in the knowledge of useful information is up to the 100 per cent. mark.

Franz Kuhn, our ever busy cobbler, has driven the pegs through sole and leather, and has restored to many a sinner a new sole for the one lost in the mire of terra firma.

Dr. Geo. Scholz, pill manufacturer, who is always ready to answer professional calls, whether in close proximity or adjacent counties, will be permitted to remain among us and succor us in our bereavements of health.

Hon. George Gerst, Uncle Sam's most humble servant, would have considered it a disgrace had he failed one single time in the mail carrying business to supply us daily with the choicest news from our own and foreign countries.

Peter Bosen, the jovial blacksmith, has sheered many a foot, without hurting the creatures feet, only laming an occasional ram with a rod hung away for that extreme emergency.

John G. Scherer, proprietor of Hamburg's refreshing counter and saloon, looks with delight back upon the past year, finding his balance sheet in favor of a gain.

John P. Westrich, whose aim it is to keep the farmers supplied with new wagons, and repairs old wagons, also reports that despite the hard gold bug times, he has done a good business and although there was so much talk about the precious gold metal, he accepted silver which, he says, is good enough for common people.

Leo Stehr, blacksmith and dealer in live stock, informs us that he will continue in the old line of business during the year 1897.

Leo Gosche & Co. have always prepared a dish of fresh oysters, cheese and sausage for the hungry populace. Their reputation as restaurant managers is wide-spread.

A. W. Dirnberger, dealer in general merchandise, is still at the old stand and reports a flush trade. Being post master and general manager of the telephone exchange in connection with his store, he is kept busy.

David Stehr, our young and prosperous north end blacksmith, reports an increasing business in the eventful year of 1896. David also handles and keeps for sale buggies and carts. May the year 1897 be a prosperous one to our business people.

## Adjourned Term of Court.

An adjourned term of circuit court will convene at Benton on Monday, January 18, for the purpose of giving trial to Frank Grant, Thos. Fike and Sis Abernathie, all charged with murder in the first degree, and also several cases of minor importance. If the cases docketed for this term are all disposed of, court will remain in session for a week or more.

## FROM BLODGETT.

Lee Scarborough and Miss Mary Williams were married December 24th at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Williams, of Clay Pool neighborhood.

J. A. Smotherman and wife, of New Madrid county, spent several days here during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark, of Wickliff, Ky., visited Mrs. Clark's parents at this place last week.

C. L. Stubbs returned last week from Springfield, Ark., and has accepted a position as salesman for B. F. Marshall.

Miss Florence Pigg and Chit. Pigg left Saturday for Jackson, where they will enter the Carlisle training school.

Mrs. W. R. Sherer is on the sick list this week.

C. W. Hawkins spent several days in St. Louis last week.

Prof. R. W. Dudley returned Saturday from Bardwell, Ky., where he has been visiting his mother.

Mrs. J. M. McCormack visited her daughter, Mrs. George Austin, at Morehouse, last week.

J. A. Hawkins left Wednesday for southwest Arkansas to accept a position on the K. T. & G. R. R.

The entertainment New Year's Eve was a grand success.

Misses Etta and Lena Harris, of Morley, were the guests of the Misses Pearl Peal and Patty Gupton last week.

## FROM EAST KESLO.

Wm. Lane, of Benton, the expert well digger, has completed a 60-foot well for Frank Compas. Anyone wishing anything in the well digging line would do well to consult Mr. Lane.

Born, on December 13, 1896, to the wife of A. Friedman, a son. Andy says it's a free silver boy.

Mrs. Christine Lipps, of Oran, was in this locality last week, visiting.

Prof. N. I. Craft, of Illinois, spent the holidays with friends near this place.

Miss Lizzie Albrecht, who teaches school in the Washburn district, is progressing nicely.

Miss Minnie Missey spent the holidays at Cape Girardeau.

Born, on December 23, 1896, to the wife of Jacob Enderle, a son.

Chas. Huerling landed in the price of the Newsboy for one year.

Anyone wishing to subscribe for the Newsboy, or renew their subscription, just leave the price with Oliver Craft, who will receipt you.

## FROM ORAN.

Our public school house will be completed this week.

J. F. Ashley has begun the erection of a fine residence.

Frank Styke bought several lots in the north part of town, on which he intends to build a residence.

Miss Wirt's spent the holidays with her parents in St. Louis, returning last Saturday.

Oran is headquarters for restaurants, about seven are doing business here.

Michael Kock, a former business man of this place, but now of Sikeston, was here New Year's day.

Geo. Metz, of Richwoods, was here last week.

William Hobbs and Lish Bryans loaded several cars with stock here Monday night.

Jacob Stehr, Jr., celebrated his 25th birthday December 27th. All present had a pleasant time.

## Proud of Our People.

It certainly seems that the advice of the Newsboy as to how the holidays should be celebrated was accepted by our people, and that everything passed off quietly. This leads us to believe that the Newsboy has much weight among our people, and that our people know what is proper when reminded.

From every section of the county comes the news that everything was quiet and the holidays passed off pleasantly. In most of our towns not even an ordinary drunk was noticeable. It is true that from Sikeston a little shooting scrape is reported, but that is a border town and its people are not extensive readers of the Newsboy—hence its influence is not so keenly felt there.

The Christmas ball at Blodgett was a decided success and the supper was equally deserving of praise. But it is always so at Blodgett. That town has some very clever young people.

On Monday evening of last week the Sikeston Opera House was brilliantly illuminated. Investigation revealed that the elite of that town were enjoying an "up-town" ball. It was a nice affair, and it may now be said that the young folks of Sikeston have shelved the game of "snaf" and "pass in the corner" and are enjoying themselves just the same as other people.

## FROM SIKESTON.

Mrs. Margaret Edwards came in on the east bound train Thursday of last week, suffering with a severe attack of pneumonia. She was taken to John Kaiser's and medical aid summoned, but she died Friday night and was buried Saturday afternoon in the Sikeston cemetery.

There have been several newspaper men in town during the past week trying to buy the Scott County Democrat. Among them we met Mr. Thomas, of Cairo, Ill., Mr. Bentley, of Gorin, Mo., and Mr. Mayhew, of Dexter. None of them succeeded in buying the outfit.

Our prosecuting attorney came down Monday on legal business. There were two cases on docket—1st was State vs. James Marshall. Milo Gresham defended Marshall and cleared him. The other case was postponed indefinitely.

Miss Hita Hart returned last Saturday from a visit to friends at Essex, Mo. Cobb's daughter accompanied her.

J. A. McLaughlin, of Mt. Ayr, Iowa, has charge of Trapp's photographic gallery at this place.

There is much talk of organizing a brass band at this place. We hope they will succeed, because every town of this size needs a band.

Miss Jane Sewall returned to her duties as teacher in the Benton school last week, after a pleasant visit to her sister, Mrs. Ray Moore. B. F. Enderle & Co., of Fredericktown, have located a marble yard at this place.

Charles Harris, of Benton, came down last week and is going to take a course of study in some of the higher branches under Prof. Bennock, principal of our school.

C. Cunningham and Miss Jessie Dixon, of Cape Girardeau, were visiting W. B. Gay and wife during the holidays.

## The Wind Was From the South.

Sunday morning the weather was warm and the wind from the south. During the day the temperature fell, but the wind continued from the south. By night it was cold and during the night everything froze up—and still a heavy gale was blowing from the south. No one around here seems to have ever experienced such a spell of weather accompanied by such severely cold south winds. Monday the wind shifted to the west and northwest, and those who had winter clothes put them on. The editor still wears his duster.

## The Changes Not Material.

Although this is the beginning of a year just after an election, yet there are no material changes about the court house. Representative Williams is in Jefferson City, and the only other changes are in the offices of collector, surveyor, public administrator and coroner. To fill these offices were elected W. H. Heisserer, collector; S. R. Jones, surveyor; Geo. W. Brundett, coroner; W. H. Stubblefield, public administrator. Collector-elect Heisserer does not enter upon the duties of his office until March.

## A Business Change at Oran.

The late firm of Matthews, Stubblefield & Co., is now styled Stubblefield Bros. Caleb Matthews has retired from the firm and W. H. Stubblefield, Jr., and J. B. Stubblefield are conducting the business.

The Stubblefield Bros. are up-to-date business men and will keep the business up to its present high standard. Mr. Matthews has embarked in business at White Water and has no objection to filling Scott county orders from that point.

## PURELY PERSONAL.

—Lynn Hunter, Clarence Hutson and the Misses Mabel Hunter and Maggie Spalding came home to spend the holidays.

—Surrey Arnold, Reese Allen and Harry DeWint departed for distant schools Monday.

—George W. Stoll, of Diehlstadt, was here New Year's Eve and helped the boys out in their festivities.

—Victor Schofield was the guest of Chas. Profit a few days this week.

—Evidently our Commerce correspondent hasn't sobered up yet.

—Henry Uelsman, of Manning, was in Benton Thursday.

—What's wrong with our Diehlstadt correspondent?

—Miss Eva Arnold returned from a visit to Oran Monday.

—Prof. Goodin spent his holiday vacation at Charleston.

—Dr. Wade and W. F. Donnell visited Oran Monday.

—R. A. Kingsbury spent Christmas in St. Louis.

—C. B. Moore of Commerce was here Tuesday.

—A. Baudendistel, of Kelso, was here Tuesday.

## ABOUT OTHER THINGS.

—The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Tenkhoff, which was so severely scald, about five weeks ago, by falling into a pail of boiling water while Mrs. Tenkhoff was visiting her sister, Mrs. Frank Miller, has sufficiently recovered to be taken home to Commerce.

—J. M. Adams, of Morley, was in Benton the other day and when asked what he came for, his reply was: "Oh, I just came over to pay taxes, and subscribe for the Newsboy." Quite a number of others were here for the same purpose.

—C. M. Wylie, baggage master at Charleston, spent the holidays at home. He left for a short stay in St. Louis on Monday of last week. His sister, Mrs. Fannie Wylie, of Commerce, spent Christmas here also.

—Miss Allie Norman, while walking from Mrs. Frohase's to the post office, at Morley, on Wednesday of last week, lost her purse containing \$6.00. Finder will be rewarded by returning same to her at Oran.

—Things appeared lively on the Belmont branch the first of the week. Owing to a washout on the main line near Williams-ville, all the main line trains passed over the branch via Charleston.

—Miss Katie Rogers, of Sikeston, Miss Ella Simmons, of Fredericktown, and Miss Ida Lambert, of Benton, these very charming young ladies, made us a pleasant call last Monday afternoon.

—We want you, your relatives and all your neighbors to become readers of the Newsboy during the year 1897. It is the only paper in the county that has no strings tied to it.

—It is rumored that Emil Steck will accept a position as head book keeper for Joe Compas soon. At any rate they were seen in very close and earnest consultation Monday.

—When you pay your dollar into the Newsboy's till you are not paying for the reading of an army of delinquent subscribers. We don't want 'em. No pay, no paper!

—John Hudson began the New Year again in the employ of W. H. Heisserer as head salesman and general assistant, with Theon Heisserer as an able associate.

—Miss Ella Simmons of Fredericktown, who has been here visiting for the past week, departed for her home Tuesday, accompanied by Miss Ida Lambert.

—Sister M. Olevia, of Chicago, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Heisserer, spent Christmas here with her parents, relatives and friends.

—W. G. Randol is the authorized agent for the Newsboy at Kelso, J. A. Barber, Sikeston and J. W. Baty, Blodgett. Pay your subscriptions to them.

—Gholis Patterson, the Oran barber, and Miss Maude Sanders were married at Hotel Hughes, by Squire Nutt, on the 27th ult.

—Letters from Dr. Freeling indicate that his condition is fast improving and that he will be home in the spring a well man. His many friends will be glad to learn this.

—Ex-Congressman Arnold, Senator Marshall, Representative Williams and J. M. Lettich left for Jefferson City Sunday.

—According to Caleb Matthews, Whitewater will be Jefferson City's competitor for the State Capitol two years hence.

—Hill & Cooper lands for sale in time payments. Apply to Albert C. Davis, 320 Olive street, St. Louis.

—Want any printing? Well the Newsboy is the place to get first class work at reasonable prices.

—Last Sunday was a dreary, drizzly, sloppy day, and it was more comfortable indoors than out.

—Wm. Reeder, Jr., Henderson Humphrey and Leo Fornes are all on the sick list this week.

—Simon Heisserer has purchased the Doe Reeves farm, near Oran. Consideration, \$5,000.

—Alfred Edmondson, and family of Sikeston, were here last week visiting relatives and friends.

—Miss Jane Sewell returned from a visit to relatives in New Madrid county Saturday.

—Elisha Arnold spent the holidays with the family of his son—Hon. M. Arnold.

—And the children had to gather up their books and start to school again Monday.